Cisco Multimode VDSL2 and ADSL2/ADSL2+ High-Speed WAN Interface Card

Product Overview and Positioning

Q. What is the Cisco® Multimode VDSL2 and ADSL2/ADSL2+ High-Speed WAN Interface Card?
A. The Cisco 1-Port VDSL2 and ADSL2/ADSL2+ EHWIC over Basic Telephone Service Modules (VDSL2/ADSL2+ EHWICs; part number: EHWIC-VA-DSL) provide 1-port multimode very-high-data-rate DSL2 (VDSL2) and asymmetric DSL2 (ADSL2)/ADSL2+ connectivity to a WAN. This enhanced high-speed WAN interface card (EHWIC), combined with the Cisco 1921 or 1941 Integrated Services Routers (ISRs) or the Cisco 2900, 3900 or 3900E Series ISRs, provides high-speed digital data transmission between customer premises equipment (CPE) and a central office (DSL Access Multiplexer [DSLAM]). This deployment enables service providers and resellers to offer additional services by supporting features for business-class security; voice, video, and data integration; differentiated classes of service (CoSs); and managed network access with Cisco IOS® Software. These value-added features, along with the manageability and reliability of Cisco IOS Software technology, provide the mission-critical networking that businesses require. Refer to the Cisco Multimode VDSL2 and ADSL2/ADSL2+ EHWIC data sheet to learn more about the advanced technologies that these modules support.


Q. What is the difference between the 1-port VDSL2/ADSL2+ EHWIC over basic telephone service modules (EHWIC-VA-DSL) and the Cisco 1-Port HWIC ADSL Modules (HWIC-1ADSL)?
A. The 1-port HWIC ADSL modules are based on the ST Micro 20196-PA chipset. These modules provide ADSL2+ over ISDN, ADSL2+ over basic telephone service, and ADSL2+ over basic telephone service Annex M as the primary WAN interface for the modular Cisco 1800, 1900, 2800, 2900, 3900, and 3900 Series ISRs. The new 1-port VDSL2/ADSL2+ EHWICs support multimode VDSL2 and ADSL2+ technologies based on the Broadcom chipset. The EHWIC version is supported only on the modular Cisco 1900, 2900, and 3900 Series ISR platforms.

Q. Which xDSL technologies do the 1-port VDSL2/ADSL2+ EHWICs support?
A. These modules support the DSL technologies listed in Table 1.

Table 1.  DSL Technologies Supported by the 1-Port VDSL2 and ADSL2/ADSL2+ EHWICs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>DSL Technology</th>
<th>Minimum Cisco IOS Software Release Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EHWIC-VA-DSL-A</td>
<td>1-port VDSL2/ADSL2+ EHWIC over basic telephone service</td>
<td>15.1(3)T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHWIC-VA-DSL-B</td>
<td>1-port VDSL2/ADSL2+ EHWIC over ISDN</td>
<td>15.1(3)T</td>
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<tr>
<td>EHWIC-VA-DSL-M</td>
<td>1-port VDSL2/ADSL2+ EHWIC over basic telephone service with Annex M</td>
<td>15.1(3)T</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. What is the difference between the 1-port VDSL2/ADSL2+ EHWICs and the CISCO 880VA Series platforms?
A. The 1-port VDSL2/ADSL2+ EHWICs and Cisco 880VA Series Multimode VDSL2/ADSL2+ platforms are based on the same Broadcom chipset and support the same DSL modem firmware. The EHWICs provide multimode VDSL2/ADSL2+ WAN connectivity for the modular Cisco 1900, 2900, and 3900 Series ISR platforms. The Cisco 880VA Series are fixed-configuration ISR platforms with integrated multimode VDSL2/ADSL2+ WAN interfaces. The same DSL feature sets are supported by both the EHWICs and the Cisco 880VA Series.
Q. Can I use the same DSL modem firmware as that on my Cisco 880VA Series platform?
A. Yes, the DSL modem firmware for the Cisco 880VA Series platforms can be used for the 1-port VDSL2/ADSL2+ EHWICs.

Q. Can I continue to use and order the ST Micro-based HWIC 1ADSL modules?
A. We announced end of sale for the HWIC 1ADSL modules based on the ST Micro chipset. You can order these modules until December 2011. They are supported by Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) according to the end-of-life guidelines for the products. Please refer to the HWIC-1ADSL end-of-sale and end-of-life notice for details.

DSL and ATM Features

Q. What DSL features do the 1-port VDSL2/ADSL2+ EHWICs support?
A. These modules support the same DSL features and modem firmware as available for the Cisco 880VA Series. Please refer to the “DSL Features” section of the Cisco 880VA Series Q&A for details.

Q. What ATM features do the 1-port VDSL2/ADSL2+ EHWICs support?
A. These modules support the same ATM features as available for the Cisco 880 Series ISR Routers. There are some differences on ATM feature support compared to that of the previous-generation HWIC 1ADSL modules. Please refer to Table 4 (ATM Feature Comparison) in the Cisco 880VA Series Q&A for details.